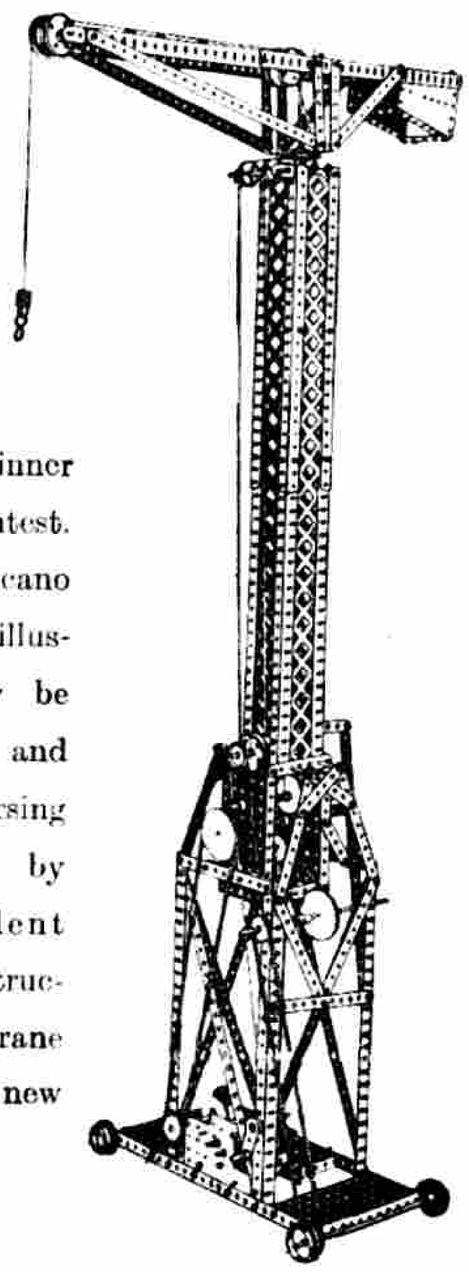
The next number of the Meccano Magazine will be published in November. Readers who wish to have the Magazine posted to them regularly should send us **2d.** in stamps for postage for one year.

VOL. 1. No. 1 SEPT.-OCT., 1916

THE MECCANO MAGAZINE

TO HELP MECCANO BOYS TO HAVE MORE FUN THAN OTHER BOYS

A Fine New Meccano Crane



This is a Prize Winner in the last Meccano Contest. When run with the Meccano Electric Motor, as illustrated, the jib may be swung, the load raised and lowered, and traversing movement obtained by means of independent mechanism. Full instructions for building the crane will be found in the new Manual of Instructions.

A Message to Meccano Boys from the Inventor of Meccano

Since I first took out patents for Meccano in 1901, the hobby has made remarkable strides. I look back upon those days with keen pleasure, because even then boys recognised the merits and usefulness of Meccano parts and bought them eagerly. In those early struggling days, I had no factory to make the parts, or in which to work out new ideas. The difficulties were numerous and often almost insurmountable. Now Meccano is manufactured in the largest toy factory in the British Empire, equipped with the latest machinery, operated by many hundreds of skilled workpeople.

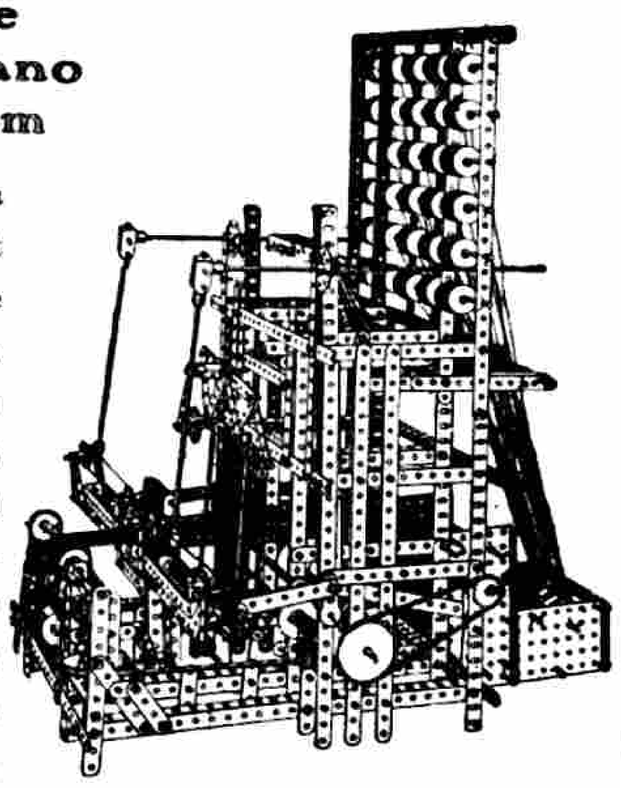
During these eventful fifteen years, a million boys of all nationalities and ages have bought and played with Meccano. Once they have started the hobby they have continued with it, buying the new parts and the new manuals as they came along. More boys play with Meccano than play football or cricket or any other hobby. I have corresponded with so many boys about Meccano, and I have got to know them so well, that I have come to look upon every Meccano boy as a personal friend, and I do not think that since the world began any man was so blessed with boy friends as I am. It is a great happiness to me to be able to send to them all a message of goodwill through the Meccano Magazine.

In future issues I want to tell you of some of the early struggles and experiences which I had in gaining opportunities for you to buy Meccano and in getting it manufactured, how some of the best parts and models were suggested to me, and plans which have been laid for the future development of the hobby. I want to know you all better, and I want you to know Meccano and myself better. My determination is the same now as it has been for fifteen years: to keep Meccano the happiest, most pleasurable, and most instructive toy which boys ever had.

F. Hornby

Managing Director Meccano Ltd.

The Meccano Loom



This is a magnificent new Prize Model which every Meccano boy will want to build and use. It automatically weaves ties and belts in all colours. It was designed in Lancashire, the home of weaving, by a Meccano user, who took for his patterns the great looms at which he worked to earn his living. It is perfect in every detail, and, like all other Meccano models, the work of an expert. Every boy should build this wonderful model, and learn all there is to know about weaving.

Our First Number

Meccano boys have been asking us for some years now to start a Meccano magazine, and here it is at last. This is a modest little first number, but it will achieve its purpose if it makes all you Meccano boys feel that you know us a little better. We have a lot of interesting developments in store, all of which will be announced in the *Meccano Magazine*, and we want you boys to look out for them, as they will all mean more fun and pleasure for you. Some of you are apt to get into a rut and to think that you are having all the fun it is possible to get out of Meccano, whereas, as a matter of fact, we are going ahead all the time and discovering new models, new ideas, and new fun for you. Write to the Editor as often as you like; he is just a grown-up boy with a lot of experience, and he knows how boys feel about things, and how to help them out of their difficulties. If your letters to him are interesting enough, you will probably find them printed in the *Meccano Magazine*.

The Editor.

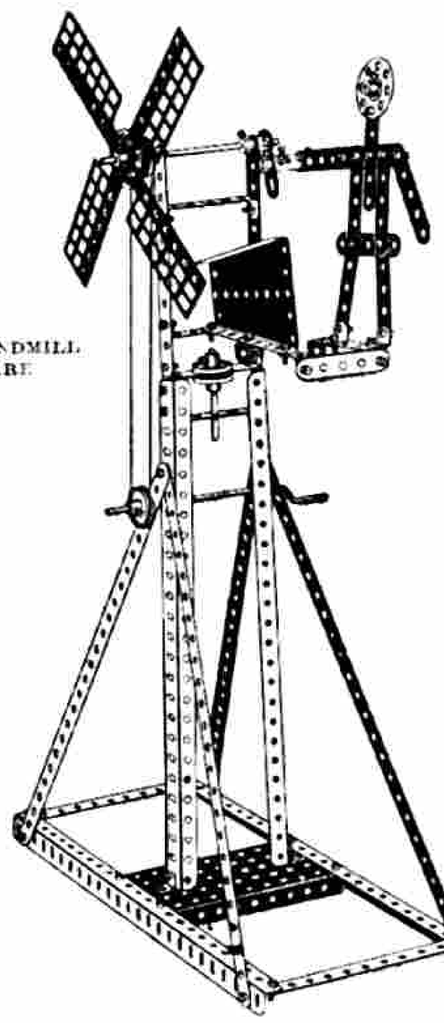
The New Meccano Manual of Instructions

If you want to really taste the joys of Meccano, you must obtain this new edition of the Meccano Manual of Instructions. For the first time it reveals the great possibilities of the hobby. It contains hundreds of prize-winning models with instructions for building them. There are models in this book which have taken years to bring to perfection. Models to play with, like the Helter-skelter, the Automatic Billiard Player, Joy Wheel, and Box Ball Alley; models to work with like the Meccano Loom, which automatically weaves ties and belts in all colours just as good as any you could buy in the shops, the Meccanograph for making thousands of exquisite designs with years of interest in it for children or grown-ups; engineering models like the Jack Knife Bridge, Stone Sawing Machine, Weighing Machines of various patterns, new Cranes and Bridges, scientific models, models of Guns, Armoured Cars, and others of war interest. By the time you have made all these models, you will have learned many useful engineering things, you will be a much brainier fellow than when you started, and you will be ready for the new supplementary editions of the Manual of Instructions which are in preparation. Every Meccano boy should keep himself up to date with new manuals. It is only by doing this that he can get the full value from his Meccano outfit. The new edition contains 326 models and costs 1s. 3d. or 1s. 6d. post free. You can obtain it either from your regular dealer, or from us if you have any difficulty.

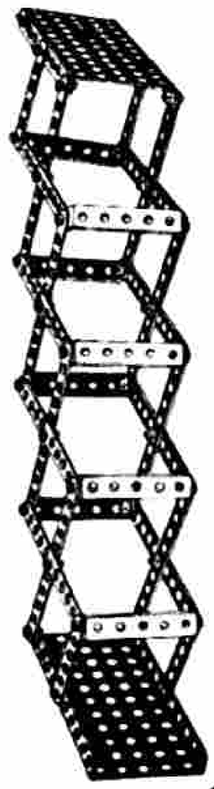
Mecca

Prize Mo

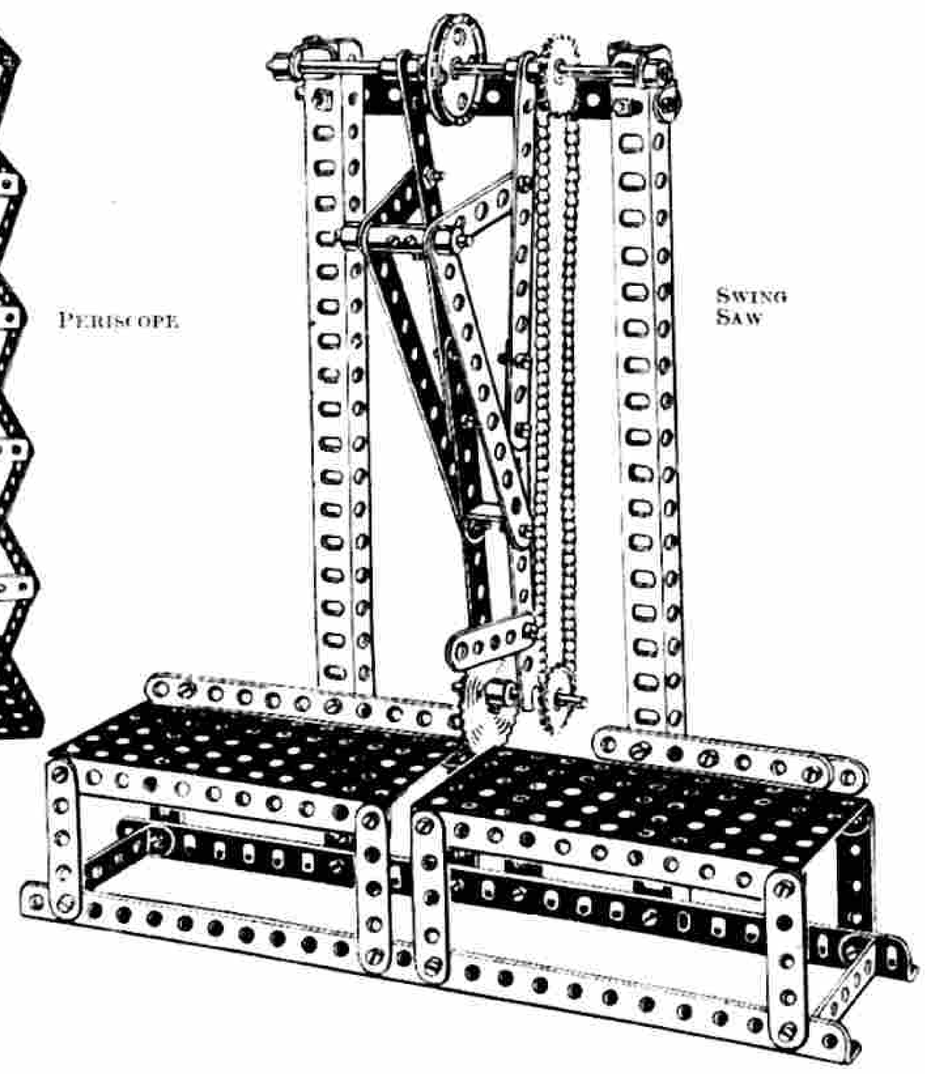
Each boy who designed one of these m
he did something which had never b
had troubles and difficulties, but he d
he got a prize for his pains, and after
faction of seeing his model published



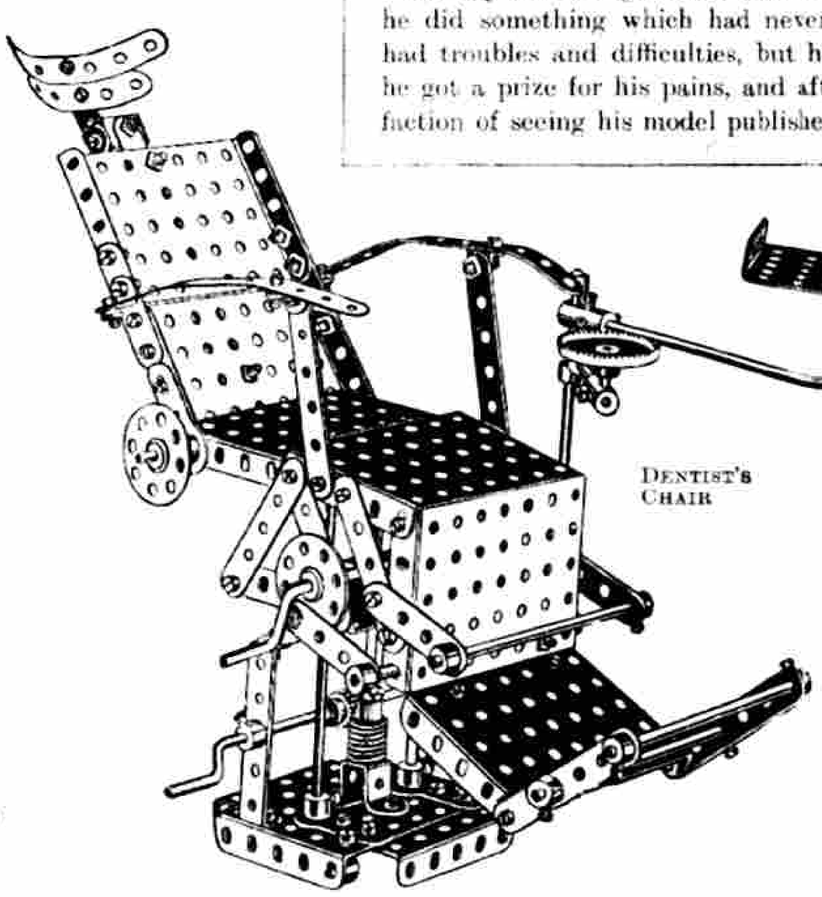
WINDMILL SCARE



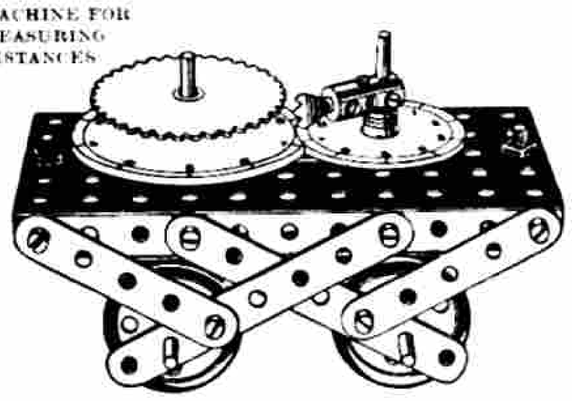
PERISCOPE



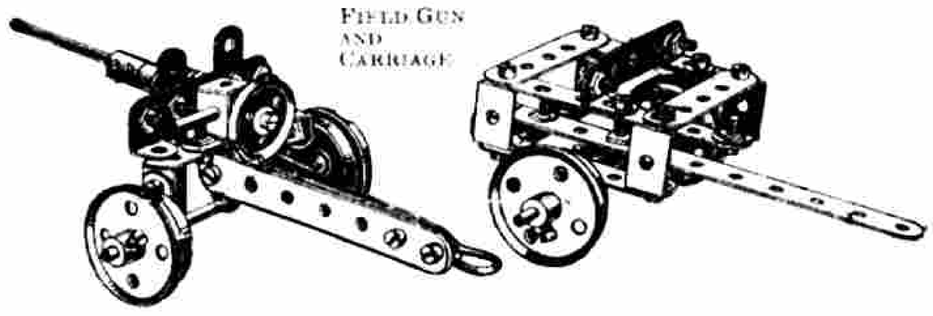
SWING SAW



DENTIST'S CHAIR



MACHINE FOR MEASURING DISTANCES



FIELD GUN AND CARRIAGE

All these models won prizes in the last grand Meccano Competition.

The Meccano Inventor's Accessory Outfit

No Meccano boy should be without this accessory outfit. No matter what regular outfit you have, the parts are useful. It contains a set of large wheels which can be used on motor cars, trucks, &c., two sizes of sprocket wheels with a length of chain for giving a positive drive and dispensing with the usual cord, which is apt to get slack and slip round the pulley. It also contains a supply of the new braced girder for building large, imposing models. There is also included in it a supply of healds, which are indispensable in building a Meccano Loom. It also contains other parts previously included in the higher-priced outfits only. It is a great help to the young Meccano inventor who desires to extend the scope of his outfit. The cost of the Inventor's Accessory Outfit is 7s. 6d.

"Dad"

When father has money we call him "Father." When he teaches Sunday School, we call him "Papa" If he shops with mother and wheels the baby carriage, we call him "Pa." But if he buys us Meccano and gives us a hand with the models till his fingers ache with screwing up the bolts with them instead of using a screw-driver, we call him "Dad."

World-famous Meccano Beats Germans Hollow

This is the verdict of Mr. A. W. Gamage, of the firm of A. W. Gamage, Ltd., London, expressed in an article which he has just written for "Pearson's Weekly." Mr. Gamage writes: "Luckily Germany did not capture every section of the toy trade. In some directions we are still pre-eminent. Britain's soldiers were second to none; they were perfect in every detail. *The world-famous Meccano toys beat the Germans hollow.* Our rubber balls were excellent, and our big wooden toys licked creation."

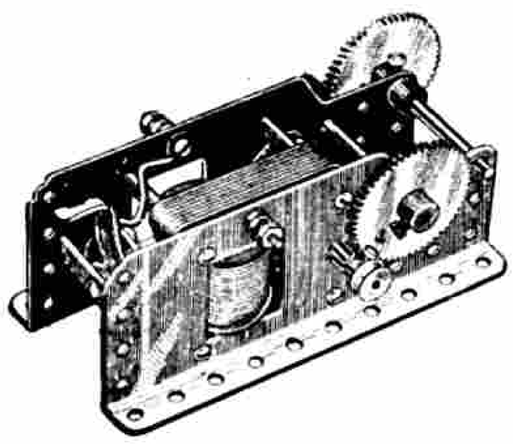
Mr. Gamage's verdict on Meccano is endorsed by every toy dealer and every boy in Great Britain. In some directions the Germans certainly did not have it all their own way, and when this terrible German-made war is over it will be our endeavour to see that much of the toy business which was formerly held by Germany and Austria will be wrested from those countries, and that the British public will know that when they are buying toys they are supporting British workmen in British factories.

Meccano Outfits as Prizes

The following well-known publications are offering Meccano Outfits as prizes in the competitions which they are running this winter:—

"The Scout."
"Home Notes."
"Pearson's Weekly."
"Everywoman's Weekly."

Some of you clever Meccano boys should have no difficulty in securing these outfits.



The Meccano Electric Motor

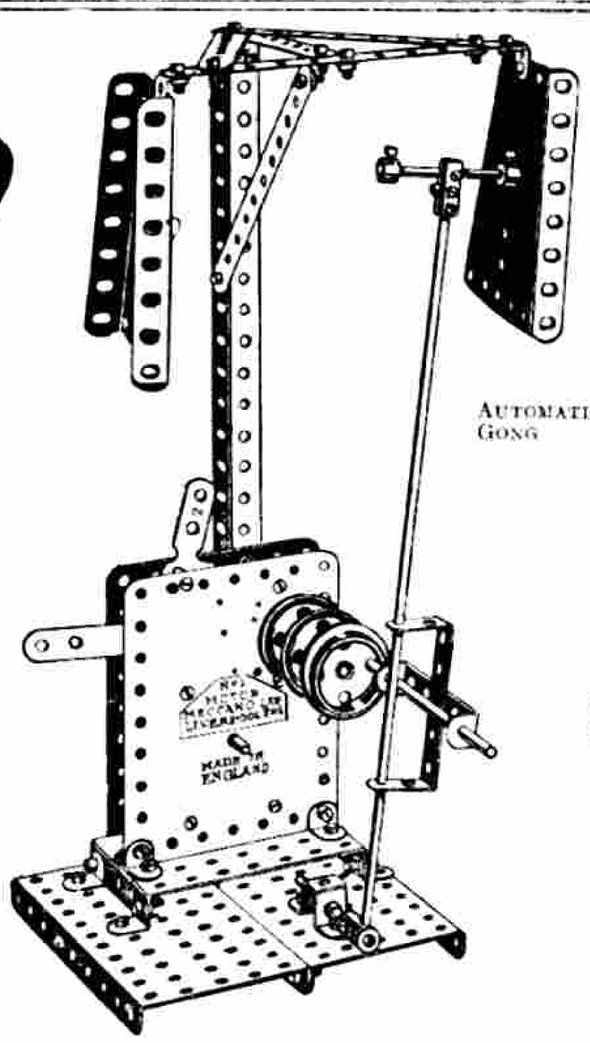
This is a perfectly designed motor which makes it possible for a boy to run his models continuously. Properly geared, it has enormous lifting power. It has the Meccano equidistant holes along the base and edges, and can be fitted into the Meccano models without difficulty. It is simple to use, and there is no danger whatever attached to it. It may be run with dry batteries, an accumulator, or direct from the home supply with a transformer. Where possible, we recommend that an accumulator be used giving four volts. This lasts for a long time, is very reliable, and can be easily recharged at small cost.

The motor is supplied in two patterns, one without reversing gear, costing 7s. 6d., and the other with reversing, stopping, and starting gear, costing 12s. 6d. Instructions go with each motor. Ask your dealer to show it to you.

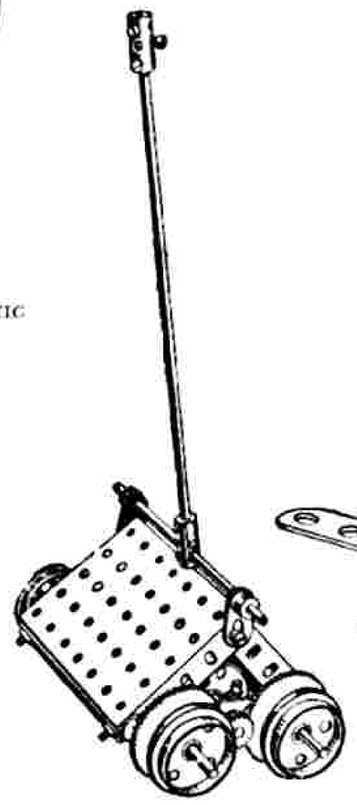
ccano Models

one of these models is a discoverer; h had never been done before. He alties, but he overcame them. Then ains, and after that he had the satis- del published here.

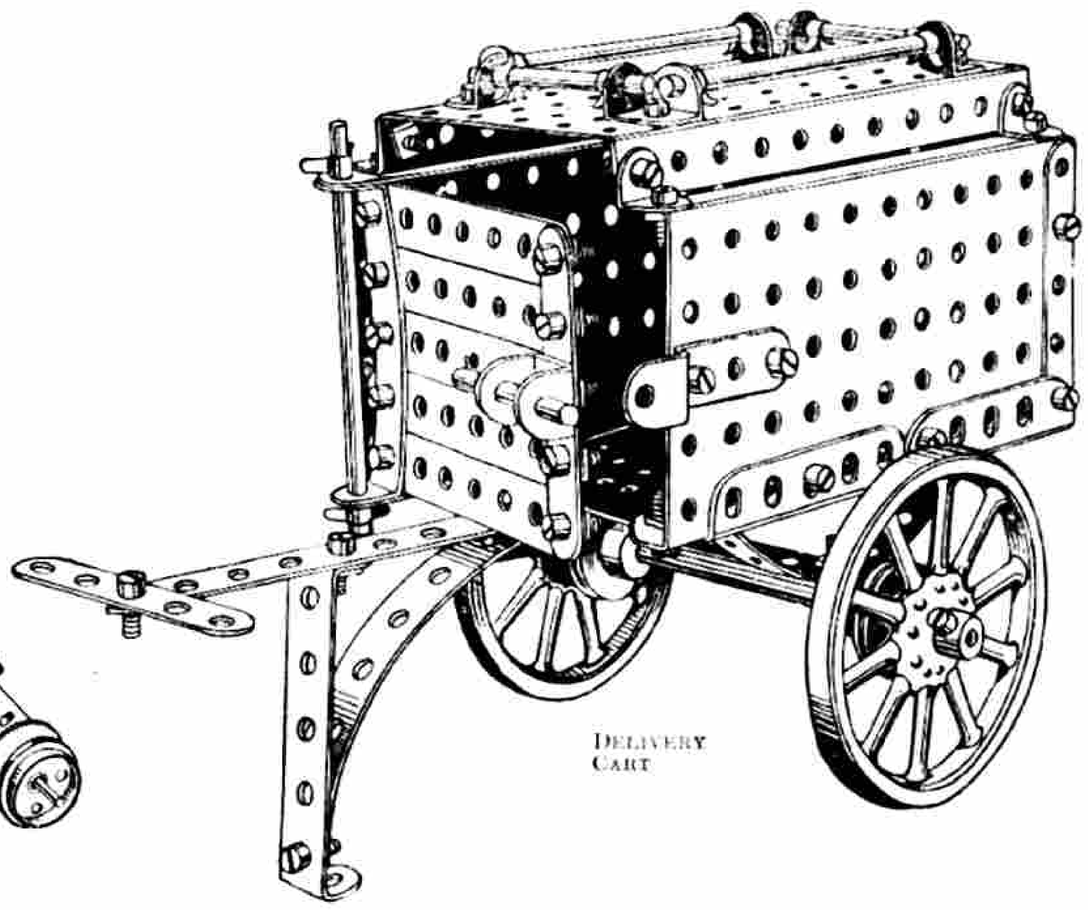
TIST'S IR



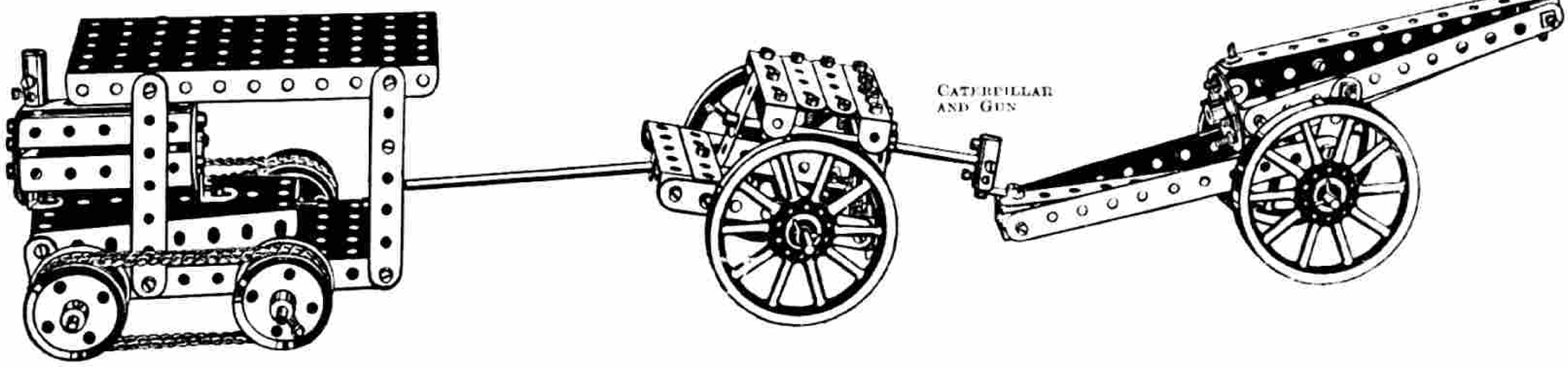
AUTOMATIC GONG



CARPET SWEEPER



DELIVERY CART



CATERPILLAR AND GUN

They are included in the new Manual of Instructions

A New

£200 PRIZE CONTEST

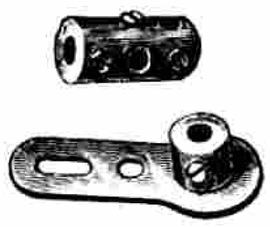
1st Prize £50 in Cash. 140 other prizes

Another grand Meccano Contest has started, and we want every boy to have a try for one of the big money prizes. These contests help the Meccano fun along and make model-building worth while. If you invent something new you prove yourself to be an original thinker, and if there is merit in it you get well paid for your work. The first thing to do is to study all the models which you make from the Manual of Instructions, and think out improvements on them. This gets your brain at work on new ideas, and it is just those ideas which we want. If you are contented to simply copy the Meccano models as you see them, you will never be successful in inventing anything new. Get to work now. See what the other fellows have done in the last two big competitions, and then go to work on something better. Do not forget the entry form; your dealer will give you one or we will post one to you on request.

The Meccano Braced Girder

This is a new flexible girder enabling large constructional models to be built, such as bridges, elevators, towers, etc., and forming a most effective decoration for many of the smaller models. It is a perfectly designed part on the lines of actual girders used in building construction. It is sold in two sizes, 5½" costing 1s. per ½-doz., and 12½" costing 1s. 6d. per ½-doz.

The Meccano Crank and Coupling

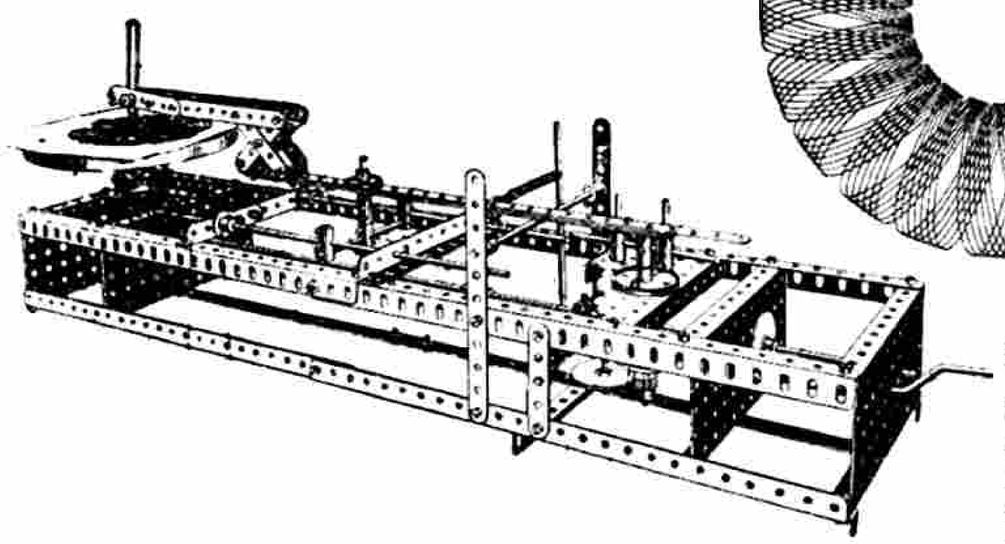


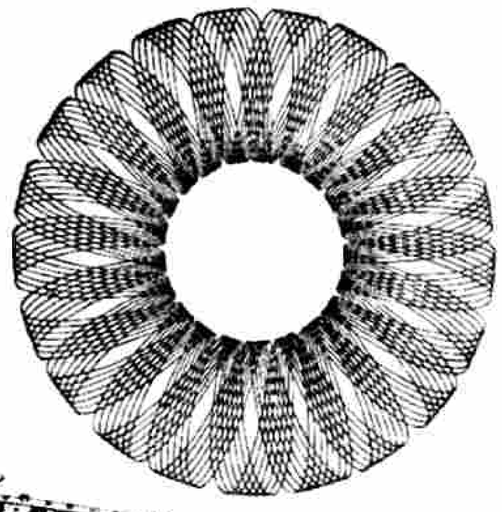
These are specially patented parts without which it is impossible to build many of the best Meccano models. They are perfect in design, and are adapted to hundreds of different uses. It is such parts as these which give Meccano its supreme position amongst constructional toys. New uses for them are being devised every day, and every Meccano boy should study them carefully. The cost of either crank or coupling is 6d.

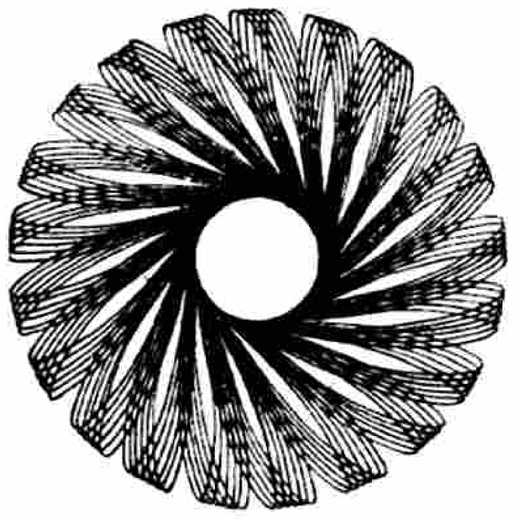
More Prizes for Meccano Boys

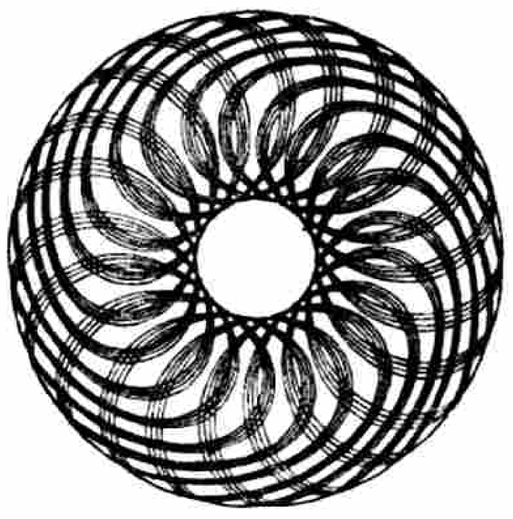
We often receive very interesting letters from enthusiastic boys telling us of the pleasure they derive from their Meccano outfits, and some of these letters show unusual literary merit. We now offer a prize of a No. 2 Meccano outfit for the best essay on "Meccano as a Toy," and a similar prize for the best essay on "Meccano as a help to the study of Engineering." The essays should not consist of more than 500 words, and must be received by us not later than January 1st, 1917. Any user of Meccano may try for these prizes.

The Meccanograph









These are a few of the wonderful designs which may be made with the Meccanograph. By simply altering the adjustments slightly, thousands of exquisite designs may be made, all different. There is no difficulty anywhere, and even a young boy can make the machine for himself and use it. It is only necessary to put the paper on the table, place the pencil in the proper position, and turn the handle. The machine itself gives you the design. We ourselves are experimenting with this machine all the time, and we shall have further useful suggestions to make regarding it in the next issue of the *Meccano Magazine*. In the meantime, we offer a prize of a No. 3 Meccano Outfit for the best set of 12 designs made with the machine sent in to us before January 31st, 1917. Full instructions for building this model will be found in the new Meccano Manual of Instructions.

The Premier Toy

Every boy who takes up Meccano finds it the liveliest and finest hobby which ever brightened up his play hours. It gets hold of you. Once you take it up, you never drop it again. It takes for ever to do all the fine things possible with Meccano. Scores of boys who have had their outfits for many years write to us and say that Meccano is the only winter hobby really worth while.

When you are building a Meccano model, you feel all the while that you are getting somewhere, that you are doing something, and that you will have something to show when you are through. And, really, a finished Meccano model is a thing to be proud of. That isn't all, though. You know just how you feel after you have got through a game of football, or cricket, or had a round of golf. You know perfectly well that next time you can play a much better game. That's exactly how you feel about Meccano. You can always see how to improve on your work next time. The most perfect machine in the world can be improved upon, and the most perfect Meccano model can be bettered. And, do not forget that when you are improving a Meccano model you are inventing just as surely as the man who invented the motor-car or wireless telegraphy, or the telephone; and inventing pays these days. Scores of engineers and designers, architects and others, use Meccano in their business, and they tell us there is nothing so good for working out their ideas and inventions. The reason is that Meccano parts are just like parts of real machines, and they work beautifully together and give you all kinds of both simple and complicated movements. All the Meccano parts are called by their right engineering names, and you learn them off without any trouble. You come to know how big engineering feats are accomplished, and you take the biggest interest in them. Thousands of boys all over the world owe their success to the time they put in on Meccano, and whether you become an engineer or not a little sound knowledge of engineering and mechanical movements is always useful.

MECCANO

Gems from our Mail Bag

G. T., Torquay, writes: "My Meccano boy is immensely pleased with the Inventor's outfit, and we both think the Girder Strips are lovely. I don't suppose you ever get to know the ages of your many little engineers, but I often wonder if my son is one of the youngest? He is only seven, and has been a real keen —and more or less inventive—Meccano boy for two years. I can't tell you what a boon it is on wet days."

It is always specially gratifying to us to know that Meccano is giving pleasure to very young boys. We wonder if any of our readers can beat this record?—Ed.

N. L. J. writes us from Batavia, Illinois, U.S.A.: "It gives me pleasure to state that furnishing my son with his Meccano outfit we found to be one of the very best investments that we have been able to make for him. The only difficulty experienced is to get him away from his planning and work long enough to give him the necessary food and rest."

Yours is the kind of letter we like to receive, N. L. J. An eminent engineer once told us that he preferred to have Meccano boys in his office. They came to him fascinated with engineering problems, which was a good start, and they had also learnt habits of diligence and orderliness.—Ed.

W.K., of Walney, writes: "I am a user of Meccano, and I and all my pals say it is the best hobby a boy can have. One lad has a ——— outfit, and he says it is as good as Meccano. He nearly got mangled, and has a thick ear and a swelled nose, and went out of school on his neck."

We hope this gentle treatment convinced the erring one.—Ed.

M. A. L. writes from Tarquah: "With much regards to your Meccano book which I am saw in 'London Opion' to-day and it was very funny as you described to all the nations. Being that I am inced off, but I hope the discrition shall pay me or shows me the way of doing good and to leave in a good health and I beg to ask you too if ever you know somebody else called Astrologier. Please direct me their addresses but when something discurtion to me I has been lost all—but do not overcharged me for your Meccano Prizes. Yours newly customer a Trial."

You seem to be in a dreadful trouble, M. A. L. We wish we could help you.—Ed.

K. A., Alvechurch, writes: "I live well out in the country, and Meccano is my only amusement. I have had it about five years now, and in all the outfits I have not had one part that did not fit exactly. It is an ideal toy."

This is an excellent tribute to the thoroughness of our Inspection and Testing Departments.

Prices of Meccano

No.			
0	Outfit with full instructions for building		3/9
1	do.	do.	6/6
2	do.	do.	12/6
3	do.	do.	20/-
4	do.	do.	32/6
5	do.	do.	47/6
6	do.	do.	115/-

No. 6 in well-finished cabinet with lock and key

Accessory Outfits

No.							
0a	converting a	No. 0	into a	No. 1	..		3/3
1a	do.	do.	1	do.	2	..	7/-
2a	do.	do.	2	do.	3	..	8/-
3a	do.	do.	3	do.	4	..	13/6
4a	do.	do.	4	do.	5	..	14/-
5a	do.	do.	5	do.	6	..	37/6

Meccano Outfits with Electric Motors

These are the regular Meccano outfits with the Meccano Electric Motor added. Each one is a magnificent present for any boy.

No.	1x	with non-reversing motor	12/6
,,	2x	,, ,, ,,	18/6
,,	3x	,, reversing motor	30/-

Each Meccano outfit is complete with all parts and tools necessary for building models. Full instructions are included and the youngest boy can commence to build at once without study. An accessory outfit may be purchased at any time enabling bigger and more interesting models to be built. Additional parts may also be purchased separately, at prices given in our published lists.

Remember that though boys play with Meccano for pleasure, and though they get more genuine fun from it than from any other toy, it also gives them a sound knowledge of engineering. Through playing with Meccano, many a bright boy has been started on a prosperous career in one of the most important and profitable professions—engineering and mechanics.

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